

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TUNIS 05778 01 OF 02 271223Z

53

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-06 SMI-01 HEW-02 /023 W

----- 021986

P 271116Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 307

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 TUNIS 5778

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC (US/TUNISIA JOINT COMMISSION MEETING)

SUBJECT: CU/NEA DRAFT POSITION PAPER: US/TUNISIAN JOINT  
COMMISSION MEETING

REF: STATE 228122 (C); TUNIS 5105; A-5479

1. EMBASSY WEICOHIS CU'S PROPOSAL TO DOUBLE FUNDING ITS EXCHANGE PROGRAM, AND FINDS MUCH MERIT IN DEPT'S PROPOSALS. WE STAND READY TO IMPLEMENT AUGMENTED PROGRAM AS SOON AS APPROVED. EMBASSY DOES HAVE SOME QUESTIONS CONCERNING ITEMS IN DEPT'S PROPOSAL WHICH ARE UNCLEAR OR REQUIRE SOME SHIFT OF EMPHASIS.

2. REFTEL STATES THAT PROPOSED AUGMENTATION OF PROGRAM IS FOR FY 76. WE ASSUME DEPT IS PREPARED, IN SPIRIT OF JOINT COMMISSION INITIATIVE, TO MAINTAIN THIS LEVEL IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS.

3. WHILE EMBASSY ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO FIELD OF AMERICAN STUDIES AND HISTORY WITHIN ITS EXCHANGE PROGRAM, WE WONDER IF DEPT'S PROPOSAL PERHAPS OVEREMPHASIZES THIS FIELD AT EXPENSE OF OTHERS EQUALLY IMPORTANT. OUR PROPOSAL INCLUDED GROUP PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND ACADEMIC GRANTS IN FIELDS OF ECONOMICS, LAW AND MANAGEMENT. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO FEEL THAT THESE ARE KEY CULTURAL AND OPINION MAKING AREAS IN WHICH TWO-WAY FLOW CAN BE GENERATED, AND HOPES THAT IT WILL NOT BE SERIOUSLY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TUNIS 05778 01 OF 02 271223Z

REDUCED IN FUTURE PROGRAMMING.

4. AS ALREADY INDICATED, EMBASSY FEELS THAT LWAINI TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON QJ TION OF DEGREE EQUIVALENCY AT MEETING WOULD NOT BE VERY EFFECTIVE AT THIS TIME, AND MIGHT INDEED BY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. GOOD PROGRESS IS BEING MADE ON THIS PROBLEM; EXISTING REGULATIONS PROVIDE THE FRAMEWORK FOR A FULL RATIONALIZATION. FUTURE PROGRESS DEPENDS ON SLOW CHANGE OF ATTITUDE BY OFFICIALS AND OLDER ACADEMICS THROUGH PERSUASION AND EXPOSURE TO BEST AMERICAN EDUCATION SYSTEM HAS TO OFFER (INCLUDING IV TRAVEL), NOT CONFRONTATION. WE AGREE THAT TUNISIANS SHOULD BE KEPT AWARE OF OUR CONCERNS IN THIS AREA, BUT EXPANDED CU PROGRAM IN ITSELF IS BEST TOOL WE HAVE FOR BREAKING DOWN REMAINING PREJUDICES.

5. COMMENT ON SPECIFIC PROPOSALS (STATE 228122):

A. PARA 8: EMBASSY WELCOMES MOSAICS PROJECT. WHILE IT NOW SEEMS TO BE IN HANDS OF SMITHSONIAN AND DOES NOT REQUIRE EXPENDITURE OF CU FUNDS, WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THE QUALITY OF THE EXHIBIT JUSTIFIES THE TIME AND EFFORT EXPENDED.

B. PARA 10: EMBASSY WOULD BE GRATIFIED TO SEE ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL LINKAGE BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF TUNIS AND AN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY. THIS MAY PROVE DIFFCULT DUE SIZE AND DECENTRALIZATION OF UNIVERSITY TUNIS, AND LACK OF RELEVANCE BETWEEN US AND LOCAL CURRICULUM IN SOME FIELDS, E.G. LAW AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES. NUCLEUS FOR LINKAGE ALREADY EXISTS AS RESULT OF NOW COMPLETED AID PROJECTS TO DEVELOP THE FACULTY OF ECONOMICS, THROUGH A CONTRACT WITH MINNESOTA, AND THE MAAGEMENT INSTITUTE THROUGH CONTRACT WITH ILLINOIS. PERHAPS THESE EXISTING LINKS PROVIDE A BASIS FOR EXPANSION. POST ALSO HOPES TO ENCOURAGE FORMATION OF AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF TUNISIAN GRADUATES OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES.

C. PARA 15: US PROFESSORS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TUNIS. OUR FIRST FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR, IN AMERICAN LITERATURE, HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TUNIS 05778 01 OF 02 271223Z

ALREADY ARRIVED. A SECOND PROFESSOOQNN THE FIELD OF LINGUISTICS, OR THE TEACHING OF YNCIALIZED ENGLISH, WOULD BE MOST WELCOME, THOUGH IT IS NOT CLEAR AT PRESENT JUST WHERE HE WOULD BEST FIT IN. THE BOURGUIBA INSTITUTE OF MODERN LANGUAGES HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEVELOPING NEW LANGUAGE TEACHING PROGRAMS FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY. THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT DOES NOT AT PRESENT HAVE A

PROGRAM FOR THE TEACHING OF SPECIALIZED ENGLISH.  
AN INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH LINGUISTICS, OPEN TO  
SCHOLARS FROM THROUGHOUT THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH  
AFRICA AND SPONSORED BY THE FORD FOUNDATION WITH  
SUPPORT FROM BRITISH COUNCIL AND UC IS SCHEDULED FOR  
TUNIS IN SUMMER 1976, AND SHOULD PROVIDE A FORUM  
FOR THE DISCUSSION OF WHERE THIS PROGRAM WILL BE  
DEVELOPED.

WE WILL HOPE TO MAKE INROADS IN OTHER DISCIPLINES, SUCH  
AS ECONOMICS, LAW AND EDUCATION. LANGUAGE IS A  
SERIOUS PROBLEM HERE; PROFESSORS IN FIELDS OTHER  
THAN ENGLISH MUST BE ABLE TO LECTURE IN FRENCH.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TUNIS 05778 02 OF 02 271232Z

53

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-06 SMI-01 HEW-02 /023 W  
----- 022018

P 271116Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 308

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 TUNIS 5778

D. PARA 16: GRANT(S) FOR TUNISIANS FOR POST DOCTORAL  
RESEARCH. EMBASSY HEARTILY ENDORSES THIS PROPOSAL,  
BUT PROPOSES SEVERAL SHORTER TERM GRANTS INSTEAD OF  
ONE LONG ONE. (PAID SABBATICALS ARE UNKNOWN HERE.)  
THIS WILL RESPOND TO REQUESTS FROM TUNISIAN PROFESSORS  
WHO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO CONDUCT ONGOING RESEARCH  
EITHER BECAUSE OF LACK OF MATERIALS LOCALLY OR BE-  
CAUSE OF TRAVEL LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY STRICT  
CURRENT RESTRICTIONS. WHILE ENGLISH TEACHING AND  
AMERICAN STUDIES ARE IMPORTANT, WE WOULD NOT WANT TO  
BE LIMITED TO THESE FIELDS IN SELECTION OF  
RECIPIENTS, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE EXTREMELY  
SMALL NUMBER OF TUNISIANS TRAINED IN THESE FIELDS.

E. PARA 17: US POST-DOCTORAL SCHOLAR TO TUNISIA.  
A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF AMERICAN SCHOLARS HAVE ALREADY

CARRIED OUT RESEARCH PROJECTS IN TUNISIA UNDER THE  
FULBRIGHT-HAYS ACT, ADMINISTERED BY THE OFFICE  
OF EDUCATION. SINCE OE ALREADY HAS THE  
SELECTION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE OF THIS PROGRAM  
WELL IN HAND, EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD  
BECOME INVOLVED IN PARALLEL PROGRAM. AS IN THE  
PAST, WE WOULD WELCOME BEING INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF  
PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECTS AND BEING GIVEN OPPORTUNITY  
TO COMMENT ON THEIR REASIBILITY AND SENSITIVITY.

F. PARA 18: GRANTS FOR TUNISIAN GRADUATE STUDENTS.  
EMBASSY WELCOMES THIS PROPOSAL, AND ASSUMES THAT  
THEESE STUDENTS WILL BE DIRECTED TO AFME IN ACCORDANCE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TUNIS 05778 02 OF 02 271232Z

WITH CPP CRITIQUE (A-5479). AS THERE IS  
ALREADY A HIGHLY QUALIFIED TUNISIAN PREPARING AN  
ADVANCED DEGREE IN LINGUISTICS IN THE US AND A SECOND  
WHO HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO AMERICAN UNIVERSITY FOR  
GRADUATE STUDY IN EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY, WE WOULD  
WELCOME EXPANSION OF THESE GRANTS TO INCLUDE OTHER  
DISCIPLINES.

G. PARA 19: APPROVE HEARTILY.

H. PARA 20: GROUP VISITOR PROJECTS. AFME ALREADY  
SPONSORS A GROUP PROJECT FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS. IN  
IN ADDITION TO A GROUP FROM THE ARTS, WE WOULD LIKE A  
SECOND GROUP FROM JUNIOR AND MIDDLE LEVEL MANAGERS  
AND EXECUTIVES IN THE PRIVATE AND SEMI-PRIVATE  
ECONOMIC SECTOR, RATHER THAN DUPLICATION OF AN  
EXISTING PROGRAM.

I. PARA 21: AMERICAN SPECIALIST IN TRACK OF BASKETBALL.  
MOSTIDNOME.

LUI. PARA 22: AMERICAN EXPERTS FOR HAMMAMET SEMINARS.  
EMBASSY WELCOMES THIS PROPOSAL, BUT SUGGESTS  
THAT BEST FORUM FOR SERIOUS DISCUSSION OF LINGUISTICS  
WILL BE THE FORD FOUNDATION SPONSORED INSTITUTE  
ON ENGLISH LINGUISTICS MENTIONED IN (C) ABOVE.  
HAMMAMET SEMINARS ARE LIMITED TO ADVANCED STUDENTS  
OF ENGLISH AT UNIVERSITY OF TUNIS; SUMMER INSTI-  
TUTE WILL ATTRACT SCHOLARS FROM THROUGHOUT  
THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE MAGHREB.  
SEELYE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975TUNIS05778  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750336-0290  
**From:** TUNIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975099/aaaaahtm.tel  
**Line Count:** 218  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION CU  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 228122  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <05 DEC 2003 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CU/NEA DRAFT POSITION PAPER: US/TUNISIAN JOINT COMMISSION MEETING  
**TAGS:** EGEN, OEXC, TS, USTSJC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006